

FedOSC context and motivation

Federal Scientific Institutions (FSIs)

- Manage extensive and diverse research data and collections
→ Vary widely in maturity, structure, and digital infrastructure

Need for Coordination:

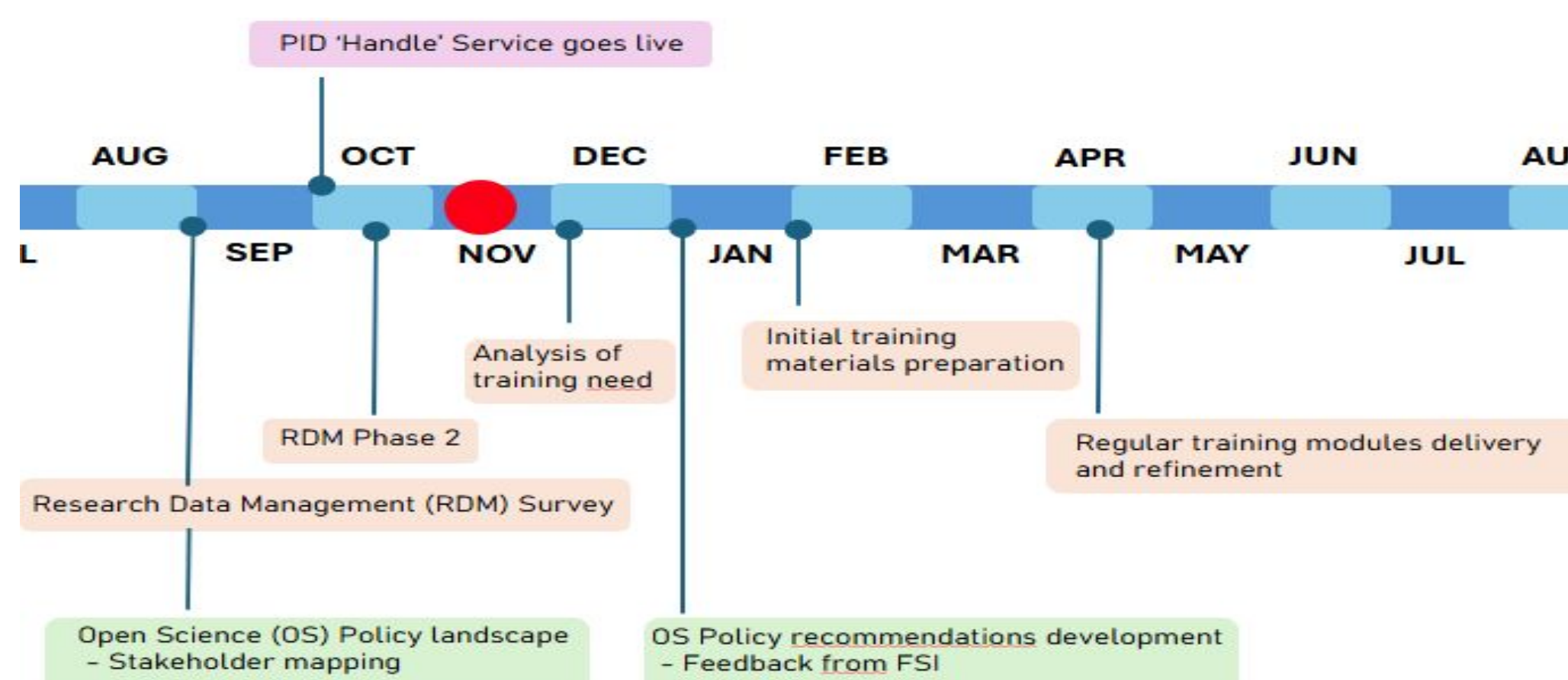
- FSIs show diverse data management cultures and practices despite being under a common federal umbrella
- A shared Open Data and Open Access policy exists
- Implementation differs significantly between institutions
→ Each FSI faces its own data management challenges

Creation of FedOSC (2024):

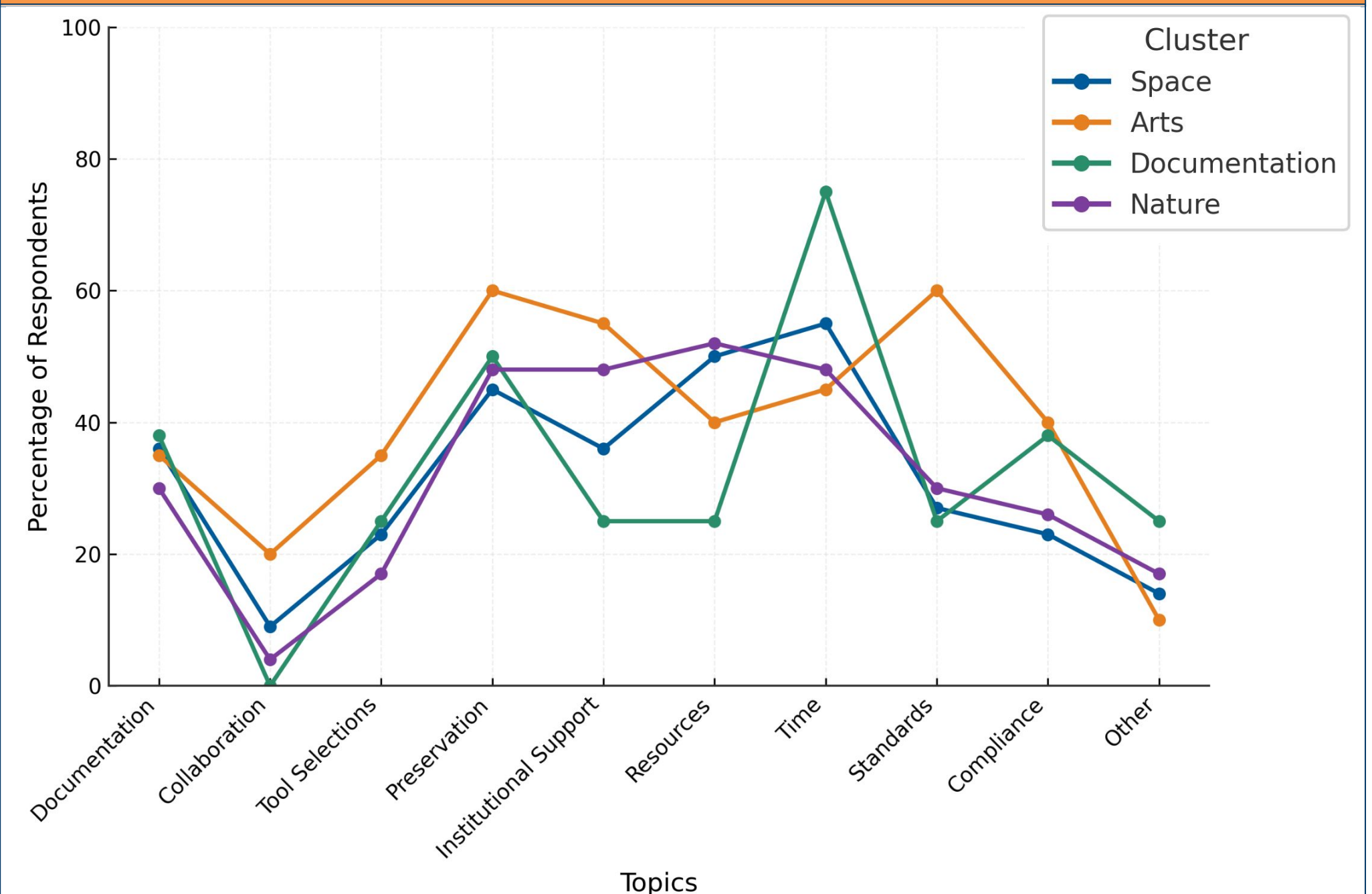
A federal initiative to support Open Science across all FSIs
Aims to align practices with FAIR principles and EOSC-level maturity
Project management by EOSC-Association BE mandated organisation (Belnet)
→ Seeks to build synergy, capacity, and shared infrastructure for sustainable Open Science development



Harmonizing heterogeneous data ecosystems and institutional cultures under one coordinated framework with one common vision



Survey results: challenges of FSIs



Comparison of biggest perceived RDM challenges among four FSI clusters (Space, Arts, Documentation, Nature), showing relatively tight alignment between clusters. Ten RDM topics on the x-axis, percentages on the y-axis, including only respondents who selected ≥1 topic.

Survey Conclusions

- (Lack of) **Time** across clusters highlights limited capacity and competing priorities in RDM work
- **Preservation** demonstrates the need for clearly defined long-term data care in heritage and collection-based contexts
- **Standards** and **metadata** challenges show the difficulty of integrating heterogeneous practices across art historical, curatorial, and conservation domains.
- **Resource** constraints hinder implementation despite widespread recognition of RDM needs

FedOSC deliverable : Connecting RDA Deliverables with Practical Implementation

Digital Services

Modernize research data tools and infrastructure to improve interoperability, metadata quality, and the FAIRness of federal scientific outputs.

Upgrade :

- DMPOnline** (Belgium's Data Management Plan tool)
- ORFEO**, the federal publication **repository**

Create:

- Metadata catalogue** based on existing digital data assets across FSIs
- Federal **PID service**

Turning selected RDA Outputs into Action

- Outputs of [Common API for machine-actionable Data Management Plans WG](#)
- [The Value of RDA for Policy Series](#) of white papers, to steer the vision beyond mere digital services creation

Strategies and policies

Revise and harmonise the federal Open Science policies in line with FAIR and RDA principles and evolving research contexts to ensure consistent and sustainable support across FSIs.

- A new federal **Open Science policy** (including AI, knowledge security, etc.)
- A national **Open Science monitoring strategy**
- Guidelines** and tools
- Supplementary **FAIR and Open Science roadmaps**
→ Towards EOSC-level alignment

Turning selected RDA Outputs into Action

- Global Open Research Commons (GORC) [Model WG](#) and [Implementation WG](#) outputs
- [RDA TIGER Project](#) outcomes, incl. [Knowledge Base](#), to support EOSC vision

Capacity and community building

Develop sustainable networks and competencies to support the practical uptake of FAIR and Open Science across federal institutions.

- Identify **training needs** of FSI researchers
- Supply **training events, tools and materials**
- Detect and leverage existing expertise to foster **peer to peer support**
- Ensure **sustainability** of (self-)training resources

Turning selected RDA Outputs into Action

- MaLDReth WG [I](#) and [II](#) as common framework for designing RDM conventions, workflows, and training resources
- [Education and Training on Handling of Research Data IG](#) outputs



Next Steps

- ⇒ Targeted co-construction efforts with user community (bottom-up): user acceptance testing of Digital Services, user-based steering committee and policy consultation groups, user-oriented guidance, tutorials, and policy implementation guides under development
- ⇒ Data discovery and inventory efforts across the first half of 2026
- ⇒ Regular EOSC alignment monitoring
- ⇒ Hope for upcoming RDA adoption stories

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Tartler-Ostrizek, A., Biernaux, J., Kauranne, S., Strobbe, F., Miglio, A., Bercegeay, MS., (2025) *FedOSC: Belgium's Federal Open Science Cloud - Connecting Institutions for FAIR and Open Research* - a poster for RDA in Europe annual Summit, Paris, 18 November 2025.

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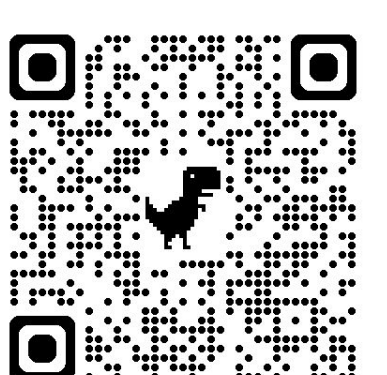
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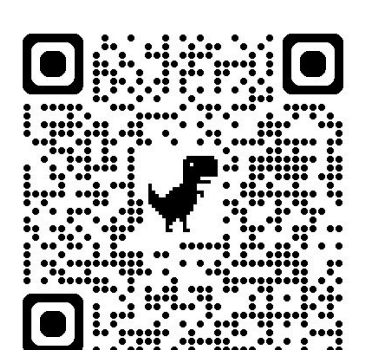
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